

TRANSLATION

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference M0179TW01WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2004/019806	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 27.12.2004	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 26.12.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B01J20/02, 20/22, 20/26, H05B33/04, 33/14			
Applicant Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Company, Inc.			

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/019806

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

 - international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:
 pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:
 nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
 nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:
 sheets _____ as originally filed/furnished
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>5-7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-4, 8, 11, 14, 16-19</u>	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>9, 10</u>	YES
	Claims <u>1-8, 11-19</u>	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-19</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Document 1: JP 2003-320215 A (Japan Gore Tex Inc.)

Document 2: JP 2003-334049 A (Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Co., Inc.)

Document 3: JP 2002-126508 A (Toyo Seikan Kaisha, Ltd.)

Document 4: JP 2002-66311 A (Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Co., Inc.)

Document 5: JP 4-297588 A (Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Co., Inc.)

Document 6: JP 2003-38143 A (Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Co., Inc.)

Document 7: JP 2003-144113 A (Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Co., Inc.)

Document 8: JP 2000-462 A (Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Co., Inc.)

Claims 1 to 4, 8, 11, 14 and 16 to 19

Document 1 (claims; paragraphs [0025], [0032], [0035], [0033], [0038], [0041], [0043] and [0050]) sets forth an absorbent formed article containing absorbent particles and a binder resin as constituent elements, and indicates that this absorbent formed article is formed after adding a forming agent to a mixture of absorbent particles and PTFE powder or particles and kneading the

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PCT/JP2004/019806**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

resultant mixture. Document 1 does not indicate that the PTFE is in a fibrous state, but according to the description of this application, in the raw material mixture having PTFE powder added thereto, the PTFE powder becomes a fibrous substance by carrying out normal kneading, therefore the PTFE powder added as a raw material of the absorbent formed article set forth in document 1 is also understood to become fibrous substance after kneading. Therefore the inventions set forth in claims 1 to 4, 8, 11, 14 and 16 to 19 are disclosed in document 1.

Claims 5 to 7, 12 and 13

It would be obvious to a person skilled in the art to employ the known oxygen absorbents set forth in documents 2 to 4 and 5 to 8 as the oxygen absorbent set forth in document 1.

Claims 9 and 10

None of the documents indicates that after obtaining a conglomerate having a carrier powder bonded by fibrous resin by applying shear stress to a mixture comprising resin which can become fibrous by being subjected to shear stress, said carrier powder is made to carry or is impregnated with an oxygen absorbent and formed; or after obtaining said conglomerate, it is formed, and said powder is made to carry or is impregnated with an oxygen absorbent, and these techniques would not be obvious to a person skilled in the art.